

Why is hazard mitigation important?

Hazard mitigation is defined as taking action to reduce the loss of life and the damage to property, infrastructure, natural, cultural, and economic resources when faced with disaster. In order to keep Cape Cod beautiful, we must take hazard mitigation seriously.

Cape Cod is vulnerable* to:

- Flooding – inland and coastal
- Shoreline change
- Extreme precipitation
- Winter storms
- Extreme wind
- Hurricanes
- Wildfires

** as identified by Hazard Mitigation Plans for Barnstable County towns*



If your business is inaccessible to customers, how will you be able to remain open?

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Other Useful Links & Resources:

Familiarize Yourself and Your Business with All Current Chemical Regulations

Barnstable County Regional Emergency Preparedness Committee

“Prepare your Business”
<https://www.bcrepc.org/prepare-your-business/>

OTA Chemical Guidance for Businesses

<https://www.mass.gov/environmental-guidance-and-tools-for-businesses>

MA DEP Toxics & Chemicals Grants & Assistance

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massdep-toxics-chemicals-grants-assistance>

MA DEP Hazardous Waste Management

<https://www.mass.gov/hazardous-waste-management>

EPA Chemicals & Substances Searching Device

https://iaspub.epa.gov/sor_internet/registry/substreg/LandingPage.do

Business Sector Specific Compliance & Certification Forms for Chemicals & Substances

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/compliance-certification-forms>

List of State Building Codes

<https://up.codes/codes/massachusetts>

Preparing for and Responding to Power Outages

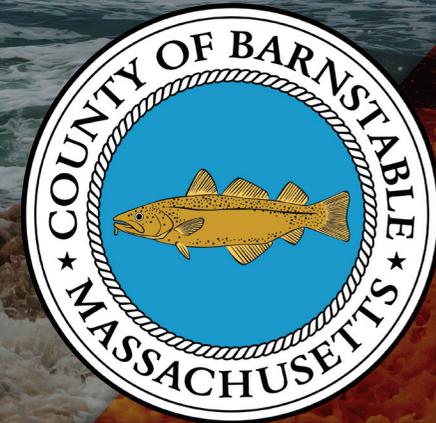
<https://www.power-eng.com/articles/print/volume-119/issue-11/features/outage-management-101-identify-plan-execute-review.html>

IMPORTANT CONTACTS:

- **Shannon Jarbeau, Floodplain Specialist & Community Rating System Coordinator** / 508-375-6952, shannon.jarbeau@barnstablecounty.org
- **Kalliope Chute, HazMat Environmental Specialist** / 1-800-319-2783, kalliope.chute@barnstablecounty.org, Barnstable County Hazardous Materials Program
- **Barnstable County** (BarnstableCounty.org)
- **Woods Hole Sea Grant** (web.whoi.edu/seagrant)
- **Love Your Local Water** (loveyourlocalwater.org)

Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
CAPECODEXTENSION.ORG

Hazard Mitigation Tips for BUSINESSES



Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
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Successful business hazard mitigation is the application of the following:

1. Familiarize with and apply lessons learned from previous disaster events
2. Develop relationships with local emergency officials
3. Consistently train and exercise employees for emergency situations
4. Don't reinvent the wheel - apply proven strategies to future resilience actions
5. Money (or lack of) should not be the only factor - conduct a business risk assessment and business impact analysis to identify priorities (refer to the business guide by ready.gov below for specifics on how to conduct both a risk assessment and impact analysis)

A GREAT RESOURCE!

Office of Technical Assistance

Free analysis of chemical hazards, less toxic alternatives, grants

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/office-of-technical-assistance-and-technology-ota>

ANOTHER GREAT RESOURCE!

UMass Lowell Toxics Use Reduction Institute



Training Events, Company Case Studies, Chemical Fact Sheets, Policy Analyses, Technical Research Reports

Library: <http://guides.turi.org/beyondmsds>

Cleaner Solutions Database: cleanersolutions.org
Assists in the search for safer cleaning processes by identifying, developing and promoting safer alternatives to hazardous solvents

Business Guide to Prepare for Emergencies

Use these tips to prepare your business for emergencies. You need to continuously review, exercise, and update all emergency plans to maintain readiness.

Ready.gov

https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1392217307183-56ed30008abd809cac1a3027488a4c24/2014_business_user_guide.pdf

Preparedness Item Cost Overview

How much do certain action items cost? (Ex: fire extinguishers, first aid kits, CPR training, virtual data backup, etc.)

Continuity of Operations Plan

A guideline to help ensure you will be able to continue performance of essential functions through unanticipated events.

<https://www.ready.gov/business/implementation/continuity>

Emergency Contact Information - FEMA's Emergency Financial First Aid Kit

A collection of forms and guidelines to help you safeguard your financial information, emergency contact lists, insurance information, and more.

Risk Assessment Survey

Knowing your risks and what to do in those situations by assessing the frequency and probability of each potential risk.

Evacuation & Shelter in Place Plans

Create evacuation plans and conduct evacuation exercises.

Planning for Disabilities

If you have employees with disabilities, ask what assistance is needed in an emergency, identify other employees that may be able to help those with disabilities, and practice the plan.

Chemical Resiliency

Use, store, and dispose of chemicals safely! Store in bins, on shelves, or install overflow containment systems for large quantities.

Emergency Supplies Checklist

- Water & food
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Battery powered radio
- First aid kit
- Whistle
- Dust masks
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape (*to seal the room*)
- Garbage bags and plastic ties

Check out the Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee for more info!

<https://www.bcrepc.org>

Cyber Security

Take measures to safeguard your computers and devices from hacking and viruses. Install anti-virus software and firewalls, change your passwords regularly, and backup your vital data.

Employee Assistance

Review employee benefits such as health care, paid time off, and work from home capabilities in case any of these things need to be accessed during or after an emergency. Train employees on how to respond to hazmat incidents.

Insurance Policy Discussion Form

Review your business insurance coverage with your insurance agent. Be sure you understand what is covered, including items that are excluded under your current policy.

Promote Preparedness and Employee Health

Exercise, test, and train employees to ensure they can deal with and respond to a wide range of disasters at work and at home.